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especially to Cremer, the more so that President McKinley, though personally favorable, expressed the opinion that any further attempt would be inopportune.

Nevertheless, a further attempt was made in 1908, when a treaty of limited arbitration was drawn up by Secretary Root and Mr. Bryce, our Ambassador, who had the fear of the Senate before their eyes. I well remember how keen was the regret of Cremer that this treaty fell so far short of his ideal, and how I tried to assure him that all the rest would follow in due time.

Since then many things have happened. The international movement in favor of arbitration has gone forward by leaps and bounds. The democracy in all countries has grown increasingly restive under its almost intolerable burdens. Labor and religion are growing more and more international. Last, and not least, the people of the United States are awake to the greatness of their opportunity. A generation ago the peace movement in the United States was confined to amiable enthusiasts who had but small influence in the country. The seed they sowed has not been fruitless.

Only a few years ago the prevailing mood in America was that of benevolent goodwill towards the peace movement; now it has been replaced by ardent enthusiasm. The gathering of the Interparliamentary Union at St. Louis no doubt did much to educate public opinion, especially as the subsequent visit to President Roosevelt was speedily followed by his efforts to stop the horrible carnage of Russians and Japanese. President Taft has gone still further, and already has his reward in the sympathetic response of Sir Edward Grey. The further increase in the navy is deplorable indeed, but the speech of Sir Edward Grey is more than a set-off against it. For a year to come the scaremongers and mischief makers, who are the enemies of every country, especially their own, will have their wasteful and wicked way; the future is not with them, but with us who look forward to the time when man shall dwell "gathering all the fruits of earth and crowned with all her flowers."

Excessive British Naval Estimates.

Dr. Ede, Dean of Worcester, in a letter to Joseph Sturge of Birmingham, thus expresses his disapproval of the excessive British naval estimates for this year:

"*Dear Mr. Sturge:* I agree with you in deploring the action of the government in issuing such excessive naval estimates. Their action in this matter must weaken the confidence and shake the allegiance of a large number of Liberals, and were it not for the present position of the constitutional controversy, many of us would welcome the defeat of a Liberal government which proposes an expenditure apparently so far in excess of the necessity of the occasion, even according to the view of the extreme advocates of a strong navy; for it is now admitted that the scare of two years ago was founded on a misconception, and that the German program had not been accelerated — but that scare led to an acceleration in our program; and now the scare is proved baseless, we have a right to expect that a Liberal government will equalize matters by lessening the pace of construction. If the present navy, which is far stronger relatively than our navy has ever been, is not powerful enough to defend

our shores, when will it be? Is there never to be finality of expenditure? Is every increase of taxation to be absorbed by additional armaments and little or none expended on those social reforms which are overdue, and which the Liberal party exists to forward? We know from the researches of Messrs. Booth and Rowntree the large proportion of our population below the poverty line, unable to provide the bare necessities of healthy life, and the still larger number just above the line who sink below it when any extra pressure occurs. Are we to have a navy equal in power to a combination of any three or four powers and a people impoverished, underfed and housed in slums? But if the home effect of such expenditure is disastrous, the international effect is even worse. How can we expect other nations to believe in our peaceful intentions when they see us building a navy in excess of the needs of defense? Say what we may, they will see in this expenditure evidence that we are contemplating an aggressive policy, and mean to attack some one.

"As many Englishmen regarded the German naval increase as evidence of a design to invade us, so our increased estimates will be regarded by many Germans as proof of our intention to attack them. Far better than this increase in expenditure would be an honest attempt to arrive at an understanding with other nations, and Germany in particular, as to our respective interests in various parts of the world, and to cultivate more friendly relationships."

"Yours faithfully,
The Deanery, Worcester. "W. MOORE EDE."

A Woman's Cry.

How Long, O Lord, How Long? (Isaiah 11: 9.)

BY MARY WIMBORO PLOUGHE.

How long will the nations thou hast ordained
Wear the filthy rags of war,
That drip with a murdered brother's blood,
That stench with a brother's gore?
How long boast their proud enlightenment,
And yet will think it is right
To pillage and burn and rob and starve —
How long this shade of night?
How long, O Lord, how long?
How long will they use their sovereign right
To orphan their little ones?
To blanch the cheeks of their maidens fair,
As they slay each other's sons?
How long from their wives' lips will they wrench
The lonely widow wail,
And plead on it all thy blessing, Lord,
And never before Thee pale?
How long, O Lord, how long?
How long will mothers, down at their knees,
Teach to their sons Thy law,
Then have them snatched, and for greed maybe
Fed to diseases' maw?
And Christian nations send them forth
To be brothers unto the ox?
O Lord, our God, Thou 'lt reign o'er all!
How long this paradox?
How long, O Lord, how long?